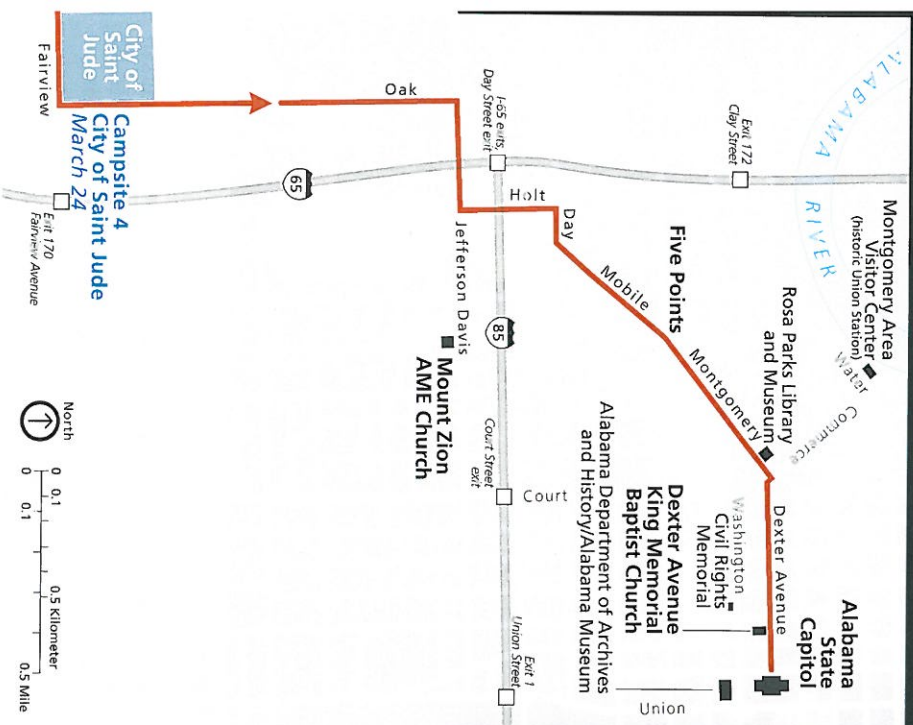


Montgomery

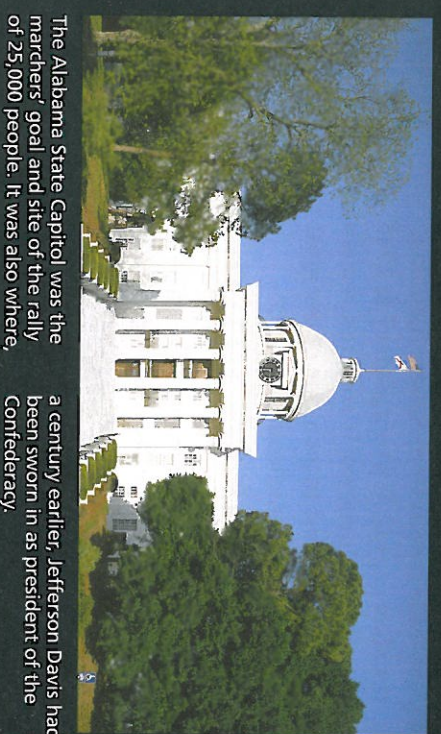


The last leg of the march, from City of Saint Jude to the Alabama State Capitol, is almost five miles long on busy city streets. If you wish to follow the march route in Montgomery, we recommend that you drive it.

March 21–25, 1965
Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March



US 80 is a National Scenic Byway, Alabama State Scenic Highway, and All-American Road. The Alabama Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration donated funds for this brochure and the Lowndes Interpretive Center. Built on the site of Tent City, it is open 9 am to 4:30 pm daily.



The Alabama State Capitol was the marchers' goal and site of the rally of 25,000 people. It was also where, a century earlier, Jefferson Davis had been sworn in as president of the Confederacy.

Montgomery: Resistance and Change

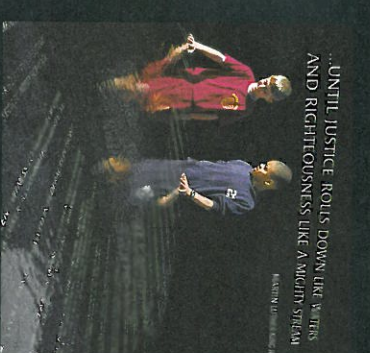
Alabama State Capitol After Jimmie Lee Jackson was killed, some people wanted to carry his body to the capitol as a protest. Instead, leaders organized the memorial march from Selma to Montgomery. State troopers barred marchers from the capitol steps, so speakers stood on a truck to address the crowd.

City of Saint Jude In the 1930s the Catholic Church established a health and education complex open to everyone, which was unheard of in the segregated South. It offered space for the march's last campsite and the "Stars for Freedom" rally. Performers included Harry Belafonte, Joan Baez, Mahalia Jackson, Sidney Poitier, Sammy Davis Jr., and the trio Peter, Paul, and Mary.

Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church Known then as Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, it was the staging area for the final rally at the capitol. It had been the headquarters of



Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church is an icon of the civil rights movement.



At the Civil Rights Memorial, water flows over the names of those slain in the civil rights struggle.

About Your Visit

the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott organized after Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give her seat to a white man.

Related Sites

Alabama Department of Archives and History and Alabama Museum

Exhibits place the civil rights movement in the context of the state's history.

Civil Rights Memorial Center (at the Southern Poverty Law Center) Exhibits and a memorial by Maya Lin honoring those slain from 1955 to 1968.

Rosa Parks Library and Museum Exhibits document her courageous civil disobedience that led to the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott.

Trenholm State Archives Gallery (at Trenholm State Technical College Library) Exhibits about the civil rights movement.

Retrace the 54-mile march beginning at Brown Chapel in Selma. Take US 80 to Montgomery; follow signs to the Alabama State Capitol.

Stop at the two interpretive centers in Selma and White Hall (see maps). View a film and exhibits, and visit the bookstore. Both are open Tuesday–Saturday, 9–4:30; closed Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1.

Safety and Regulations

Wear comfortable walking shoes. • Watch for snakes, poison ivy, and fire ants.

• Drink plenty of water. • For firearms regulations check the park website.

Accessibility

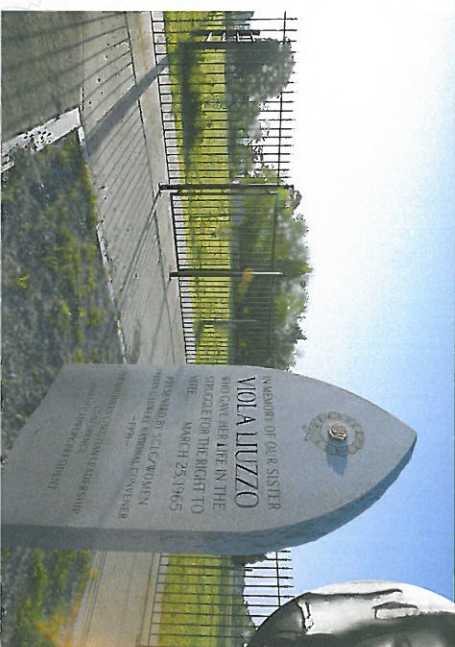
We strive to make our facilities, services, and programs accessible to all. For information call or check the park website.

More Information
Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail
7002 US 80 West
Hayneville, AL 36040
334-877-1984
www.nps.gov/semo

In 1996 Congress established Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail. To learn more about National Park Service programs in America's communities, visit www.nps.gov.

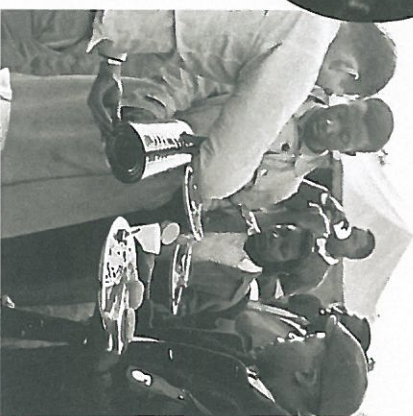
National Park Foundation. Join the park community. www.nationalparks.org

NPS 2014-323-004-107-9 Last updated 2014
Printed on recycled paper.



Viola Liuzzo
March 25, 1965
HELEN STAN

The Viola Liuzzo Memorial is near the place where she was shot.



© CHARLES MOORE / BLACK STAR

Feeding marchers after a long day on the road.



© CORBIS

The "Stairs for Freedom" rally at City of Saint Jude, March 24.

At the Lowndes County Line US 80 narrowed from four lanes to two. A court order allowing the march stipulated only 300 people could walk this part of the road, both to keep one lane open for traffic

and because the narrow, rural road through the county would be the most dangerous part of the march. Three hundred people would be much easier to guard than 4,000.

Tent City. In Lowndes County, white landowners retaliated against tenant farmers who registered, voted, or engaged in any voting rights activities by throwing them off their land. The Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and Lowndes County leaders helped families stay together and remain in

the county. They bought tents, cots, heaters, food, tents, cots, heaters, food, several families built a temporary "tent city." Residents were often harassed and shot at, but they persevered for nearly two years as they searched for jobs and permanent housing.

City of Saint Jude, a Catholic institution with a hospital, school, and church, was the last campsite for marchers and the site of a musical rally the night before the final leg of the march into Montgomery.

Montgomery See detail map at right

White Hall

Lowndes Interpretive Center Site of Tent City

Campsite 2 Rosie Steele Farm March 22

Viola Liuzzo Memorial
AME Zion Church

Campsite 3 Robert Gardner Farm March 23

Hayneville In August 1965

On the road to Montgomery, after carrying marchers back to Selma, Viola Liuzzo was shot and killed by Klansmen. Her memorial, near the place where she was shot, overlooks the route of the march.

Hayneville

Old Lowndes County Jail
Jonathan Daniels Memorial

North
0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers
0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles

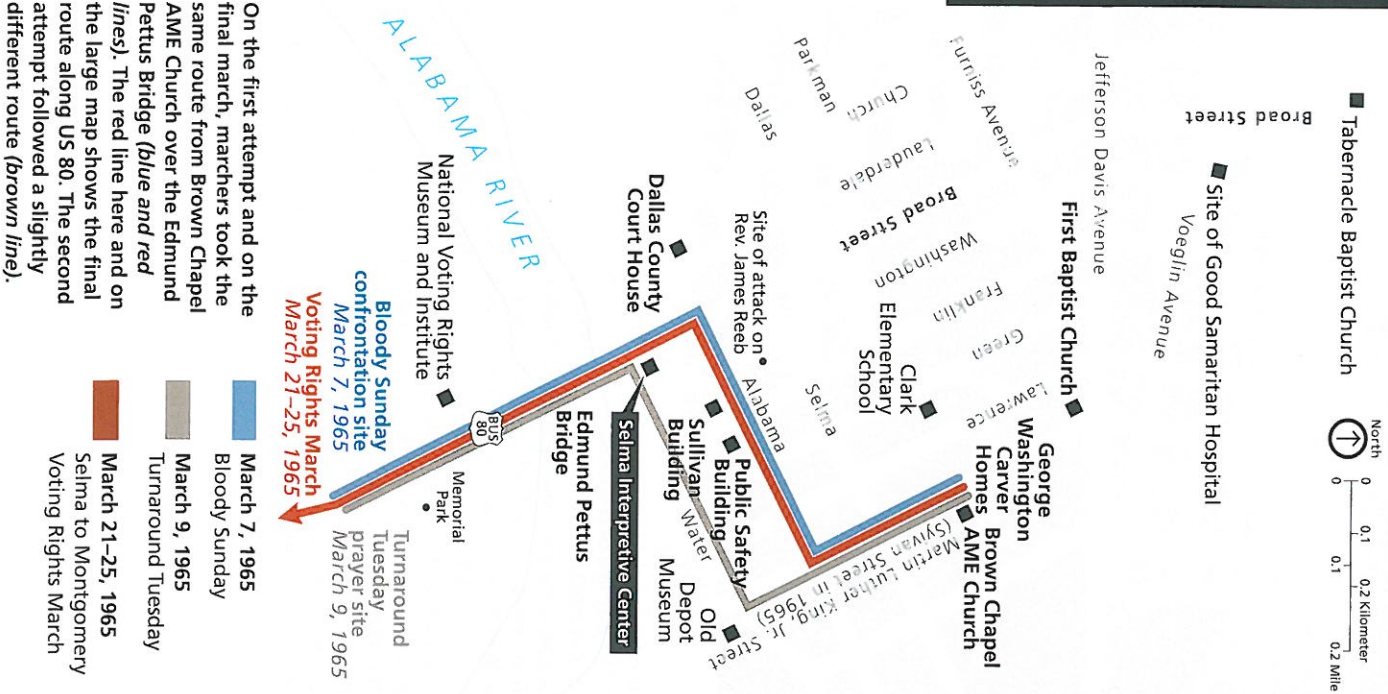
State Technical College Archives
H. Council Trenholm

Campsite 4 City of Saint Jude March 24

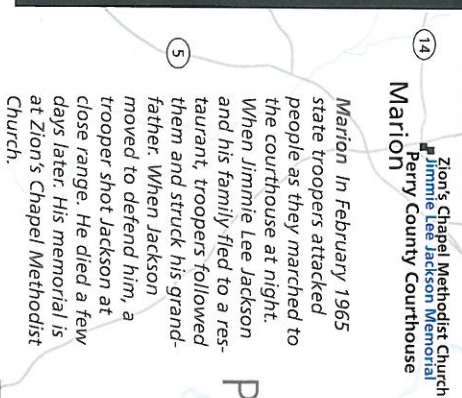
LOWNDERS

MONTGOMERY

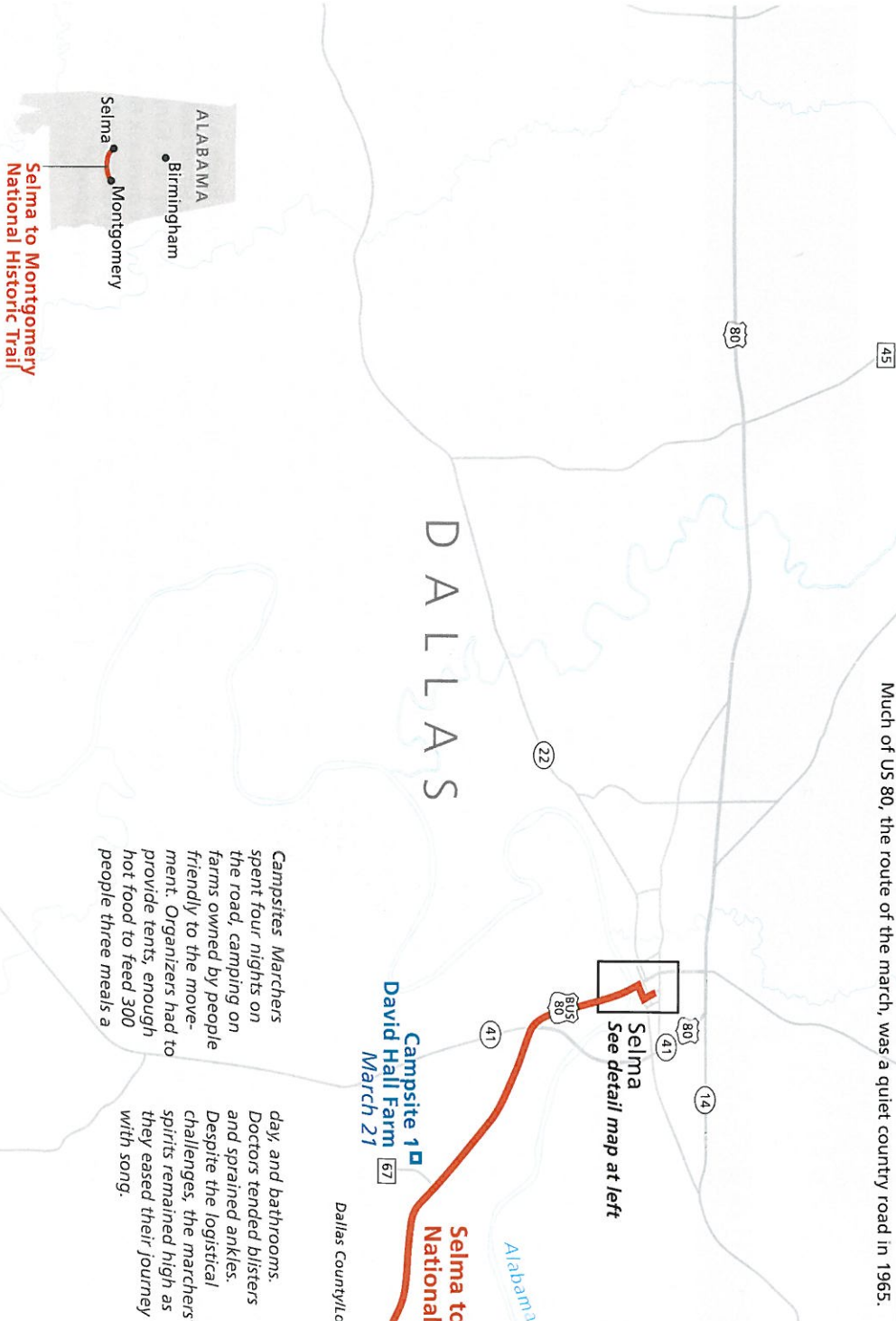
Selma



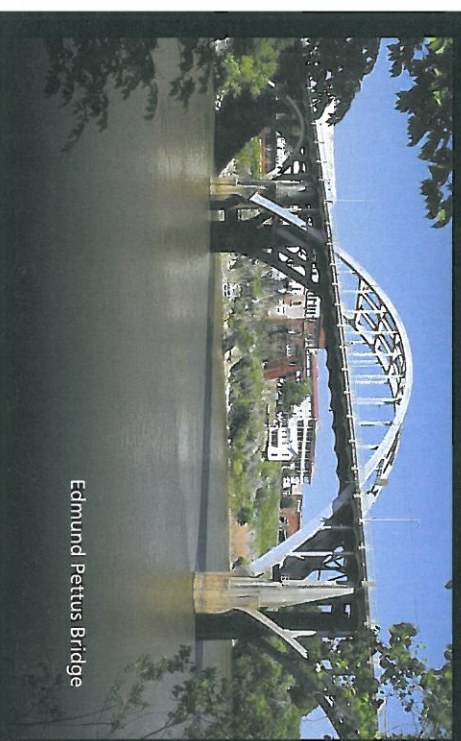
Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail



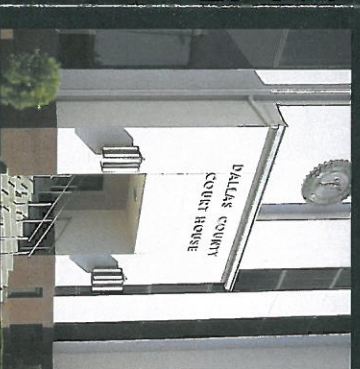
Much of US 80, the route of the march, was a quiet country road in 1965.



Following the Trail



Edmund Pettus Bridge



Dramatic confrontations during the voting rights campaign took place at the Dallas County Court House.



The First Baptist Church supported the Selma voting rights campaign before it became national news.



Brown Chapel AME Church became the command post and spiritual heart of the local voting rights movement.



A mural (detail/above) near where Rev. James Reeb was attacked portrays a people's trials and hopes for the future.

Courage, hate, triumph, fear, hope—

powerful emotions are evoked by the sites related to the 1965 voting rights march from Selma to Montgomery. For those who had a role in the events, memories haunt these places. For others the experience is indirect but also deeply felt.

Because photographs and film of the events played so crucial a role in the struggle, these images and today's historic sites enrich each other. The streets and buildings, many virtually unchanged, help us engage more deeply with recorded scenes from five decades ago. At the same time the old images make the sites resonate with the passions of a stormy era. Standing before them is like watching an old newsreel, our imagination calling up the cries and confusion from that terrible, noble time.

Some of the sites inspire, as they summon again the idealism and purpose that drove the voting rights movement. Others make us uncomfortable—commemorating the death of an innocent, marking a place where people suffered bigotry and brutality—but this is why they are so important. These places will not let us forget.

Selma: Echoes of the Struggle

Selma remains a small, quiet town. We suggest you start your visit at the Selma Interpretive Center at the corner of Broad and Water. Park rangers can answer questions and provide historical context for the story. Then follow the self-guiding tour of major sites connected with the voting rights drive.

"Bloody Sunday" Confrontation Site Here Alabama state troopers and the county sheriff's posse halted, then attacked, marchers on March 7, 1965.

Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church Large groups of people met in this church in the early days of the voting rights campaign. It was also the staging point for marches to the county courthouse and for the final march to Montgomery.

Cecil C. Jackson Public Safety Building Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and other marchers

were incarcerated here after the march on February 1, 1965.

Dallas County Court House This was the destination for most voting rights marches in Selma. Those trying to register were confronted with bureaucratic obstacles or roughly removed from the premises.

Edmund Pettus Bridge On March 7—"Bloody Sunday"—marchers crossed this bridge as they left Selma; on the other side they were beaten back by state troopers blocking US 80.

First Baptist Church This church took the early lead in the voting rights struggle in Selma and Dallas County. Members allowed the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) to use the church as its organizational base and rallying point when it arrived in Selma in 1963.

George Washington Carver Homes Many participants in the Selma marches lived in this large housing complex. Marchers and civil rights workers from out of town were lodged here.

Sullivan Building The SNCC and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) directed their local voting rights activities from this building.

To make the most of your time: *If you have two hours:* Take the Martin Luther King, Jr. Street Historic Walking Tour and see the Bloody Sunday confrontation site.

If you have half a day: Take the Martin Luther King, Jr. Street Historic Walking Tour (Brown Chapel AME Church, First Baptist Church, Carver Homes) and see the Dallas County Court House and the Bloody Sunday confrontation site.

Related Sites

Clark Elementary School Teachers from this school marched to the county courthouse and attempted to register, inspiring others who had been reluctant to join the campaign.

National Voting Rights Museum and Institute Documents, artifacts, and films trace the voting rights struggle and commemorate those who took part.

Site of Good Samaritan Hospital The primary hospital for African Americans during segregation and where most injured marchers were taken.

Tabernacle Baptist Church Site of the first mass meeting on voting rights in Selma, 1963.